

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 00856 100954Z

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ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU, US

SUBJ: PRESS REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S FRENCH VISIT

REF: (A) STATE 070190; (B) BUDAPEST 0824

1. COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S TRIP TO PARIS APPEARED FIRST TIME IN LOCAL PRESS APRIL 7-8, IN SOME CASES ON FRONT PAGE.

2. GOVERNMENT PAPER MAGYAR HIRLAP ON APRIL 7 REPORTED PRESIDENT'S MEETINGS WITH EEC LEADERS AND STATED THAT TALKS FOCUSED ON MEANS OF IMPROVING CONSULTATION WITHIN NATO AND RESULTS OF SALT AND MBFR CONFERENCES. MAGYAR HIRLAP ARTICLE OF APRIL 8 STATED PRESIDENT'S PRIME PURPOSE IN TALKS WAS TO CONVINCE "WEST EUROPE THAT WHILE NECESSARY TO UNIFY, AT SAME TIME IT MUST STABILIZE ITS RELATIONS WITH US". PAPER CHARGED THAT US DESIRE FOR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH NATO MEMBERS MEANS IN EFFECT THAT WASHINGTON WILL DICTATE TO ITS ALLIES ON FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS.

3. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PODGORNÝ GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE AND PRESS REPORTED THAT BOTH SIDES DISCUSSED MEANS OF IMPROVING US-USSR RELATIONS AND IMPROVING DETENTE.

4. ENGLISH/GERMAN LANGUAGE DAILY NEWS APRIL 7 CARRIED PICTURE ON FRONT PAGE OF PRESIDENT STANDING NEXT TO LOSONCZI AT POMPIDOU FUNERAL SERVICE.

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5. THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT AND MOST MATERIAL

HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM WESTERN NEWS SOURCES.
PEDERSEN

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